
MATTERS ARISING

Engelkens replies to a letter.

The localisation of treponemes in skin biopsies

We thank Dr RB Bosma for his kind comments on our paper¹ in his recent letter², which appeared in *Matters Arising*.

For several years the modification of the Steiner staining method according to De Koning J *et al*³ has been performed in our institution as a routine. This superior technique was also used on all specimens described in our publication. The same modified silver stain was used in two other studies.^{4,5}

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- 1 Engelkens HJH, Kate FJW ten, Jubianto Judanarso, *et al*. The localisation of treponemes and characterisation of the inflammatory infiltrate in skin biopsies from patients with primary or secondary syphilis, or early infectious yaws. *Genitourin Med* 1993;69:102-7 and Correction, *Genitourin Med* 1993;69:327.

- 2 Bosma RB. The localisation of treponemes in skin biopsies (letter). *Genitourin Med* 1993; 69:408.
- 3 De Koning J, Bosma RB, Hoogkamp-Korstanje JAA. Demonstration of spirochaetes in patients with Lyme disease with a modified silver stain. *J Med Microbiol* 1987; 23:261-7.
- 4 Engelkens HJH, Vuzevski VD, Jubianto Judanarso, *et al*. Early yaws: a light microscopic study. *Genitourin Med* 1990;66: 264-6.
- 5 Engelkens HJH, Kate FJW ten, Vuzevski VD, *et al*. Primary and secondary syphilis: a histopathological study. *Int J STD & AIDS* 1991;2:280-4.

NOTICES

The 24th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR) will be held 24-27 September, 1994 at the Vienna General Hospital, Vienna, Austria.

Abstract forms and meeting registration information can be obtained from: Professor Dr. Wolfram Sterry, ESDR Secretary, Department of Dermatology, University of Ulm Medical School, Oberer Eselsberg 40, D-89081 ULM, Germany. Fax: 49-731-502 3772.

Outcomes into Clinical Practice. 7 June 1994, International Hotel, Marsh Wall, Docklands.

This conference organised by the BMA, BMJ and UK Clearing House on Health Economics will explore the opportunities for outcome assessment in clinical practice. The meeting is particularly geared to clinical teams in both hospital and general practice. For further details please contact: Pru Walters, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP. Telephone: 071-383-6518.

IUVDT World STD/AIDS Congress 1995. 19-23 March 1995, Singapore.

For further information contact: Communication Consultants, 336 Smith Street #06-302, New Bridge Centre, Singapore 0105. Telephone (65) 227 9811. Fax (65) 227 0257.